

**The Invention Claimed Is:**

1. In combination:

a housing defining a housing interior;

a swash plate drive shaft disposed in said housing interior and rotatably mounted relative to said housing about an axis of rotation;

a swash plate mounted on said swash plate drive shaft angularly disposed relative to said axis of rotation and located in said housing interior, said swash plate having an outer swash plate portion surrounding said swash plate drive shaft and generally freely rotatably moveable about and relative to said swash plate drive shaft, said outer swash plate portion having a contact surface; and

a plurality of spaced reciprocating members mounted for reciprocatable axial movement relative to said housing and engaging the contact surface of said outer swash plate portion, the locations of contact between said contact surface and said reciprocating members changing when said outer swash plate portion rotates about said swash plate drive shaft.

2. The combination according to Claim 1 wherein said swash plate comprises a ball bearing assembly, said outer swash plate portion comprising an outer race of said ball bearing assembly.

3. The combination according to Claim 2 wherein said outer race has a convexly curved outer peripheral wall adjacent to said contact surface.

4. The combination according to Claim 3 wherein said spaced reciprocating members have cavities receiving said outer race defined by concavely curved cavity walls engaged by the convexly curved outer peripheral wall of said outer race, the concavely curved cavity walls and the convexly curved outer peripheral wall of said outer race conforming in shape.

5. The combination according to Claim 3 wherein the convexly curved outer peripheral wall of the outer race comprises a segment of an imaginary sphere.

6. The combination according to Claim 5 wherein said outer race has a central diametric axis and wherein the axis of rotation of said swash plate drive shaft is intersected by the central diametric axis of said outer race substantially at the center of said imaginary sphere.

7. The combination according to Claim 4 wherein said outer race has two substantially planar contact surfaces spaced from one another and extending inwardly from said convexly curved outer peripheral wall, said spaced reciprocating members including ball bearings projecting into said cavities and engaging said two substantially planar contact surfaces.

8. The combination according to Claim 7 wherein said two substantially planar contact surfaces are substantially parallel to one another.

9. The combination according to Claim 1 wherein said spaced reciprocating members are fluid compressor pistons.

10. The combination according to Claim 2 wherein said ball bearing assembly has an inner race and ball bearings disposed between said inner race and said outer race.